

In the Claims

1. (original) A threaded ring the one-piece body of which provided with internal threading (5) has two body components (1 and 3) one of which forms a set collar with a plane surface (11) positioned on the end in a radial plane and the other body component (3) of which forms a retaining ring which is connected to the first body component (1) to form a gap (15) positioned between the two body components (1 and 3) by way of an elastically flexible wall component (29) of the body and has an actuating mechanism (31) by means of which the geometry of the gap (15) may be adjusted on the basis of the elastic flexibility of the wall component (29), characterized in that the second body component (3) functioning as a retaining ring has for the purpose of forming the elastically flexible wall component (29) a circumferential area (21) which is reduced in relation to the first body component (1) to an external diameter which is situated over a radius smaller than the radially outer end (17) of the gap (15), which in turn is situated over a smaller radius than the circumference (19) of the first body component (1), and in that the circumferential area (21), of smaller diameter, of the second body component (3) ends an axial distance from the gap (15) which defines the extent of the flexible wall component (29) in the axial direction.

2. (original) The threaded ring as claimed in claim 1, wherein the circumferential area (21), of reduced external diameter, of the second body component (3) is in the form of a cylindrical circumferential surface which extends from the edge (23) on the end side adjoining the front surface (25) of the second body component (3) to the flexible wall component (29).

3. (currently amended) The threaded ring as claimed in claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the actuating mechanism has a plurality of tightening means (31) permitting modification of the width of the gap (15) at selected points.

4. (original) The threaded ring as claimed in claim 3, wherein set screws (31) are provided as tightening means which are positioned evenly over a coaxial graduated circle, extend through the gap (15) in parallel with the axis, and rest by their screw heads (35) on the second body component (3).

5. (original) The threaded ring as claimed in claim 4, wherein the screw heads (35) of the set screws (31) are seated recessed into the front surface (25) of the second body component (3).

6. (original) The threaded ring as claimed in claim 5, wherein hexagon socket screws (31) are provided as set screws the screw heads (35) of which are more or less flush with the front surface (25) when recessed into the front surface (25).